

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims, in the Application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of accessing a platform independent input method editor (IME) from an underlying operating system, comprising:
 - (i) receiving keystrokes at an operating system-based input;
 - (ii) forming a character sequence from said received keystrokes, the character sequence being rendered as a desired character;

passing the character sequence to an IME device driver, the IME device driver converting the character sequence into a first encoding format;

passing the character sequence encoded in the first format to an operating system-based IME service module;
 - (iii) from an the operating system-based IME service module, calling said platform independent IME to convert said character sequence to a corresponding code point in a second encoding format, the code point being a value assigned to the desired character in a specification of the second encoding format; and
 - (iv) transferring said code point to an operating system-based output.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~(i)~~ the receiving step comprises receiving said keystrokes at an active input control in an application associated with said operating system.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~further comprising converting said received keystrokes to a~~ the first encoding format is an encoding format suitable for editing said keystrokes at said active input control, and for forming said character sequence.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, ~~further comprising converting wherein~~ said character sequence is converted to ~~[[a]]~~ the second encoding format by the operating system-based service module ~~compatible with said platform independent IME.~~
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said platform independent IME is a Java-based Unicode IME, and said second encoding format is Unicode.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein calling said platform independent IME ~~in (iii)~~ comprises calling a Java IME character handling method via a Java Native Interface.
7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein ~~said operating system is a Windows operating system, and~~ said Java IME character handling method is called from said operating system-based IME service module running on an operating system ~~a Windows~~ service manager.
8. (Currently amended) A system for accessing a platform independent input method editor (IME) from an underlying operating system, comprising:

an operating system-based input for receiving keystrokes from a user;

an operating system-based device driver for forming a character sequence from the received keystrokes, the character sequence being rendered as a desired character;

an operating system-based IME service module for receiving ~~[[a]]~~ the character sequence formed from said keystrokes, and for calling said platform independent IME to convert said character sequence to a corresponding code point, the code point being a value assigned to the desired character in an encoding format Specification; and

an operating system-based output for outputting said code point.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said operating system-based input comprises an active input control in an application running on said operating system.
10. (Currently amended) The system of claim 9, ~~further comprising an operating system-based device driver configured to form a character sequence from said keystrokes received from the user, and to transfer~~ wherein the operating system-based device driver transfers said character sequence to said operating system-based IME service module.
11. (Currently amended) The system of claim 10, wherein said operating system-based device driver is configured to convert said received keystrokes to a first encoding format suitable for editing said keystrokes at said active input control, ~~and for forming said character sequence.~~

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein said operating system-based IME service module is configured to convert said character sequence to a second encoding format compatible with said platform independent IME.
13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein said platform independent IME is a Java-based Unicode IME, and said second encoding format is Unicode.
14. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said operating system-based IME service module is configured to call a Java IME character handling method via a Java Native Interface.
15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 14, wherein ~~said operating system is a Windows operating system, and~~ said operating system-based IME service module is configured to run on a ~~Windows~~ an operating system service manager.
16. (Currently amended) A system for accessing a platform independent input method editor (IME) from an underlying operating system, comprising:

an operating system based input means for receiving keystrokes from a user;

an operating system based means for forming a character sequence from the keystrokes, the character sequence being rendered as a desired character;

an operating system based means for receiving ~~[[a]]~~ the character sequence formed from said keystrokes;

an operating system based means for calling said platform independent IME to convert said character sequence to a corresponding code point, the code point being a value assigned to the desired character in a Specification of an encoding format; and

an operating system based output means for outputting said code point.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein said operating system based input means comprises an active input control in an application running on said operating system.
18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, further comprising an operating system based device driver means configured to form ~~[[a]]~~ the character sequence from said keystrokes received from the user, and to transfer said character sequence to said operating system based IME service module.
19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said operating system based device driver means is configured to convert said received keystrokes to a first encoding format suitable to editing said keystrokes at said active input control, and for forming said character sequence.
20. (Currently amended) A computer program product for providing access to a platform independent input method editor (IME) from an underlying operating system, the computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied in the medium, the program code means ~~for~~ providing access to a platform independent IME from an underlying operating

system when executed by a processor, the computer readable program code means including:

computer readable program code means for receiving keystrokes at an operating system based input;

computer readable program codes means for forming a character sequence from received keystrokes, the character sequence being rendered as a desired character;

computer readable program code means for calling, from an operating system based IME service module, said platform independent IME to convert said character sequence to a corresponding code point, the code point being a value assigned to the desired character in a Specification of an encoding format; and

computer readable program code means for transferring said code point to an operating system based output.

21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 20, further comprising computer readable program code means for receiving said keystrokes at an active input control in an application associated with said operating system.
22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21, further comprising computer readable program code means for converting said received keystroke to a first encoding format suitable for editing said keystrokes at said active input control, and for forming said character sequence.

23. (Original) The computer readable program product of claim 22, further comprising computer readable program code means for converting said character sequence to a second encoding format compatible with said platform independent IME.